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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hidekatsu IKEDA et al.

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Appl. No. : 10/599,706  
(National Stage of PCT/JP2005/006533)

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : March 28, 2005

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

For : BENDING APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims and Abstract as shown herein.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 2 of this paper.  
**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 4 of this paper.  
**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.